

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Josh Lewis in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at lewis.josh@epa.gov or (202) 564-2095.

Sincerely,

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Leonard Lance
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lance:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

The EPA is currently working to issue the final RFS volume standards for 2014 as quickly as possible. We recognize that the process for issuing the annual RFS volume standards needs to get back on the schedule established by the law. To that end, we are currently considering how to improve the annual RFS rule development process in order to meet the statutory deadlines in the future. That said, the RFS touches on a range of complex environmental, energy and agricultural issues, and many of the topics we are addressing in the 2014 proposed rulemaking are novel and complex.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Robert Bishop
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bishop:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Robert Woodall
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Woodall:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Billy Long
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Long:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable John Carney
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Carney:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Steve Womack
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Womack:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Chris Collins
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Collins:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Jason Chaffetz
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Chaffetz:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Tom Cole
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cole:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Jim Gerlach
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gerlach:

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Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Lynn A. Westmoreland
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Westmoreland:

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Michael G. Fitzpatrick
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Fitzpatrick:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Steve Chabot
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Chabot:

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JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Don Young
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Young:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

The EPA is currently working to issue the final RFS volume standards for 2014 as quickly as possible. We recognize that the process for issuing the annual RFS volume standards needs to get back on the schedule established by the law. To that end, we are currently considering how to improve the annual RFS rule development process in order to meet the statutory deadlines in the future. That said, the RFS touches on a range of complex environmental, energy and agricultural issues, and many of the topics we are addressing in the 2014 proposed rulemaking are novel and complex.

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The EPA sought input on many aspects of the proposed rule, including the methodology for determining volumes. The comment period for the proposal ended on January 28, 2014, and we received over 300,000 comments. We are currently in the process of reviewing those comments and assessing new data that will help inform the final rule. Reviewing and incorporating information from these comments and from the most recent data takes time, but we anticipate issuing the final 2014 RFS volumes before the end of June.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Josh Lewis in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at lewis.josh@epa.gov or (202) 564-2095.

Sincerely,

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Bob Goodlatte
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Goodlatte:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

The EPA is currently working to issue the final RFS volume standards for 2014 as quickly as possible. We recognize that the process for issuing the annual RFS volume standards needs to get back on the schedule established by the law. To that end, we are currently considering how to improve the annual RFS rule development process in order to meet the statutory deadlines in the future. That said, the RFS touches on a range of complex environmental, energy and agricultural issues, and many of the topics we are addressing in the 2014 proposed rulemaking are novel and complex.

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Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Peter Welch
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Welch:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Charles W. Dent
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dent:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Paul C. Broun
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Broun:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Michael Conaway
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Conaway:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Jack Kingston
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Kingston:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Matt Salmon
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Salmon:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Mike Simpson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Simpson:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Frelinghuysen:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Joe Wilson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Wilson:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Jeb Hensarling
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hensarling:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Kaptur:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Jim Matheson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Matheson:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

The EPA is currently working to issue the final RFS volume standards for 2014 as quickly as possible. We recognize that the process for issuing the annual RFS volume standards needs to get back on the schedule established by the law. To that end, we are currently considering how to improve the annual RFS rule development process in order to meet the statutory deadlines in the future. That said, the RFS touches on a range of complex environmental, energy and agricultural issues, and many of the topics we are addressing in the 2014 proposed rulemaking are novel and complex.

As you know, on November 29, 2013, the EPA published in the *Federal Register* a proposed rule that would establish the 2014 RFS volume standards. In developing the proposed volumes, the EPA used the most recent data available and took into consideration multiple factors. Our analysis included an evaluation of both the expected availability of qualifying renewable fuels as well as factors that, in some cases, limit supplying those fuels to the vehicles and equipment that can consume them. On the basis of our analysis, we proposed to reduce the required volumes from statutory levels for 2014 for cellulosic biofuel, advanced biofuel, and total renewable fuel. We proposed to maintain the same volume for biomass-based diesel for 2014 and 2015 as was adopted for 2013.

The EPA sought input on many aspects of the proposed rule, including the methodology for determining volumes. The comment period for the proposal ended on January 28, 2014, and we received over 300,000 comments. We are currently in the process of reviewing those comments and assessing new data that will help inform the final rule. Reviewing and incorporating information from these comments and from the most recent data takes time, but we anticipate issuing the final 2014 RFS volumes before the end of June.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Josh Lewis in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at lewis.josh@epa.gov or (202) 564-2095.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet G. McCabe", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Marc Veasey
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Veasey:

Thank you for your letter dated April 4, 2014, to President Barack Obama concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to reduce the 2014 federal volume mandates under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program, and urging the EPA to promulgate the final standards as soon as possible.

The EPA is currently working to issue the final RFS volume standards for 2014 as quickly as possible. We recognize that the process for issuing the annual RFS volume standards needs to get back on the schedule established by the law. To that end, we are currently considering how to improve the annual RFS rule development process in order to meet the statutory deadlines in the future. That said, the RFS touches on a range of complex environmental, energy and agricultural issues, and many of the topics we are addressing in the 2014 proposed rulemaking are novel and complex.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
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NOW THE
OFFICE OF LAND AND
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The Honorable Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Burgess:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

Since a compliance deadline extension to 2024 could unintentionally do more harm than good, we are not extending the deadline. The new requirements in the 2015 UST regulation were designed to focus on the parts of tank systems most likely to leak or to fail to detect a leak if there were a problem. A several-year delay in conducting the new requirements could result in releases not being identified and addressed for many years, which ultimately could result in unnecessary environmental damage and more expensive cleanup costs. Since the regulation was finalized in 2015, many stakeholders, including tank owners and operators, service providers, testing companies and other contractors have planned their work based on the October 2018 deadline, and an extension now could be disruptive to those stakeholders' businesses.

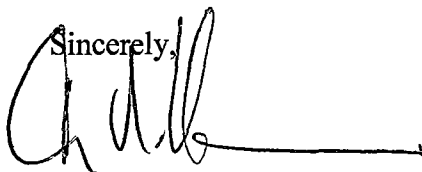
Moreover, the agency undertook an extensive and lengthy process in developing the 2015 UST regulation. We reached out substantially to affected stakeholders starting in 2008 before proposing the rule in November 2011. After the proposal, there was a five-month comment period during which we received approximately 200 comments. The final rule, published in 2015, simplified the implementation schedule, reduced the burden of walkthrough inspections, removed requirements for periodic testing of tank secondary containment and changed requirements on some previously deferred tanks, among other revisions. In May 2017, the EPA added an alternative sump testing method that some stakeholders could choose if it would be easier for them to use and less costly.

Additionally, because USTs are often directly regulated by states, the deadline of October 13, 2018 applies directly in only the 16 states and territories that have not received State Program Approval (SPA). In the other 40 states and territories with SPA, the state regulations apply in lieu of the federal regulation, and states can implement their regulations up to three years beyond the federal compliance

deadline. Thus, implementation will be phased in from 2018 through up to 2021. The variability of deadlines will reduce the demand on contractors at any one time.

The EPA encourages tank owners to not wait until the last minute to try to arrange for testing and inspection. If the required tests/inspections determine that existing equipment is not properly operating to prevent and detect releases, the EPA understands it may take time to get that equipment repaired or upgraded. For diligent tank owners who nevertheless are unable to comply with the October 2018 deadline, the EPA considers any good faith efforts to comply with the law when deciding if and how to respond to a violation.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,


Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

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The Honorable Lynn Jenkins, CPA
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Jenkins:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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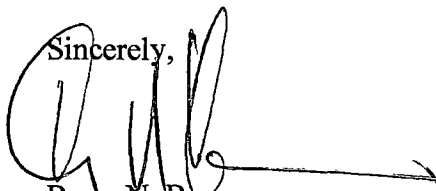
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,

Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

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The Honorable Markwayne Mullin
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Mullin:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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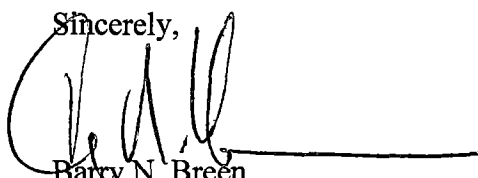
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. N. Breen', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Barry N. Breen

Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

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The Honorable Richard Hudson
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hudson:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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Moreover, the agency undertook an extensive and lengthy process in developing the 2015 UST regulation. We reached out substantially to affected stakeholders starting in 2008 before proposing the rule in November 2011. After the proposal, there was a five-month comment period during which we received approximately 200 comments. The final rule, published in 2015, simplified the implementation schedule, reduced the burden of walkthrough inspections, removed requirements for periodic testing of tank secondary containment and changed requirements on some previously deferred tanks, among other revisions. In May 2017, the EPA added an alternative sump testing method that some stakeholders could choose if it would be easier for them to use and less costly.

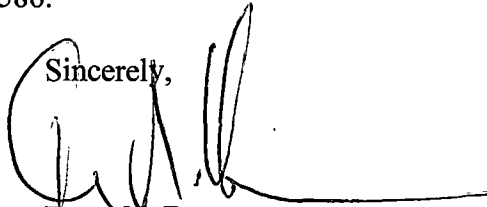
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,

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Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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The Honorable Pete Olson
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Olson:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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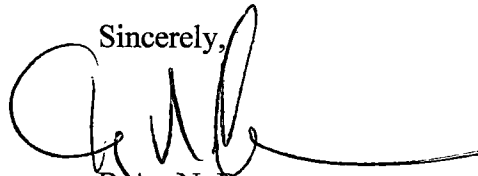
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Sincerely,

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Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

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The Honorable Larry Bucshon, M.D.
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bucshon:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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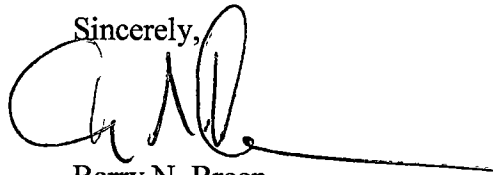
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,

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Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

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The Honorable Susan W. Brooks
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Brooks:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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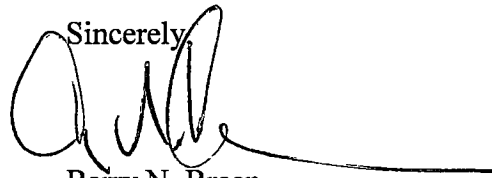
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Sincerely,

Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

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The Honorable Robert E. Latta
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Latta:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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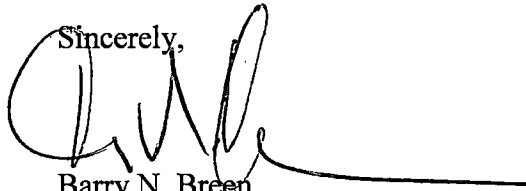
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,



Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

NOW THE
OFFICE OF LAND AND
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Honorable Bill Flores
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Flores:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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Moreover, the agency undertook an extensive and lengthy process in developing the 2015 UST regulation. We reached out substantially to affected stakeholders starting in 2008 before proposing the rule in November 2011. After the proposal, there was a five-month comment period during which we received approximately 200 comments. The final rule, published in 2015, simplified the implementation schedule, reduced the burden of walkthrough inspections, removed requirements for periodic testing of tank secondary containment and changed requirements on some previously deferred tanks, among other revisions. In May 2017, the EPA added an alternative sump testing method that some stakeholders could choose if it would be easier for them to use and less costly.

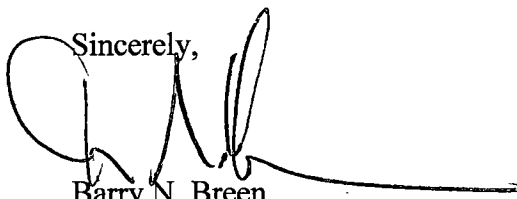
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Sincerely,



Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF
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The Honorable Jeff Duncan
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Duncan:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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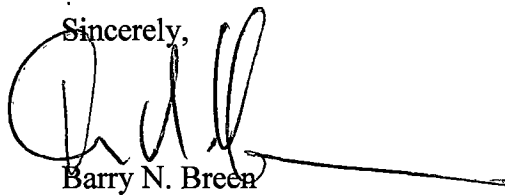
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Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



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The Honorable Brett Guthrie
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Guthrie:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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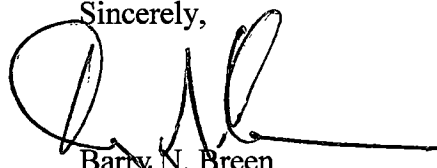
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Sincerely,

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Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

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The Honorable Bill Johnson
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Johnson:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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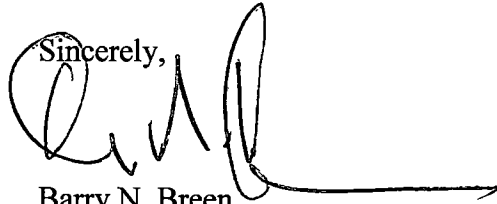
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Sincerely,



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The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Rodgers:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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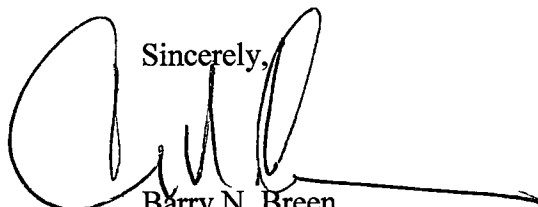
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Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

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The Honorable Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Carter:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

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The Honorable Leonard Lance
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lance:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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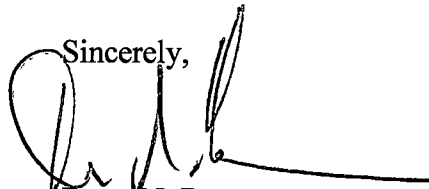
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Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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The Honorable Kevin Cramer
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cramer:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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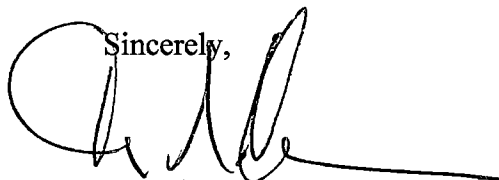
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Sincerely,

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Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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The Honorable Gregg Harper
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Harper:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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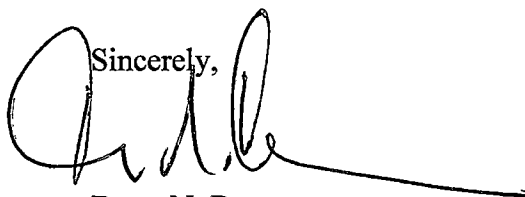
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,


Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE
NOW THE
OFFICE OF LAND AND
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Honorable Chris Collins
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Collins:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

Since a compliance deadline extension to 2024 could unintentionally do more harm than good, we are not extending the deadline. The new requirements in the 2015 UST regulation were designed to focus on the parts of tank systems most likely to leak or to fail to detect a leak if there were a problem. A several-year delay in conducting the new requirements could result in releases not being identified and addressed for many years, which ultimately could result in unnecessary environmental damage and more expensive cleanup costs. Since the regulation was finalized in 2015, many stakeholders, including tank owners and operators, service providers, testing companies and other contractors have planned their work based on the October 2018 deadline, and an extension now could be disruptive to those stakeholders' businesses.

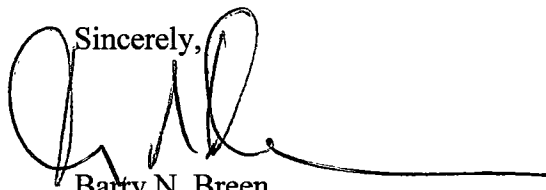
Moreover, the agency undertook an extensive and lengthy process in developing the 2015 UST regulation. We reached out substantially to affected stakeholders starting in 2008 before proposing the rule in November 2011. After the proposal, there was a five-month comment period during which we received approximately 200 comments. The final rule, published in 2015, simplified the implementation schedule, reduced the burden of walkthrough inspections, removed requirements for periodic testing of tank secondary containment and changed requirements on some previously deferred tanks, among other revisions. In May 2017, the EPA added an alternative sump testing method that some stakeholders could choose if it would be easier for them to use and less costly.

Additionally, because USTs are often directly regulated by states, the deadline of October 13, 2018 applies directly in only the 16 states and territories that have not received State Program Approval (SPA). In the other 40 states and territories with SPA, the state regulations apply in lieu of the federal regulation, and states can implement their regulations up to three years beyond the federal compliance

deadline. Thus, implementation will be phased in from 2018 through up to 2021. The variability of deadlines will reduce the demand on contractors at any one time.

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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,

Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

NOW THE
OFFICE OF LAND AND
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Honorable David B. McKinley, P.E.
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McKinley:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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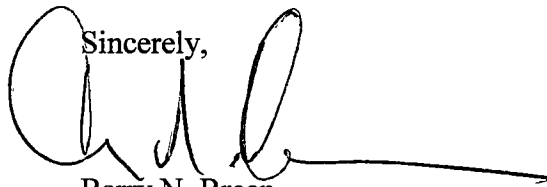
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Breen', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 24 2018

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

NOW THE
OFFICE OF LAND AND
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Honorable Tim Walberg
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Walberg:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2018 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the EPA extend its previously established compliance deadline of October 13, 2018, for portions of the 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulation (specifically 40 CFR 280.35), to October 13, 2024. In your letter, you raised several concerns, including the feasibility of the testing and inspection requirements, and that operators may have difficulty finding qualified contractors to perform the required testing and inspections by the October 13, 2018 compliance deadline.

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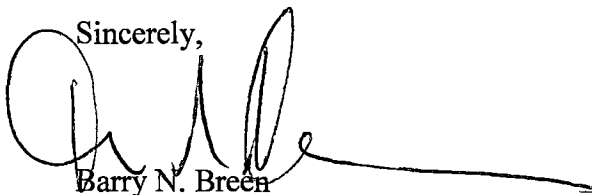
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at snyder.raquel@epa.gov or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,



Barry N. Breen
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C., 20460

JUL 12 2017

OFFICE OF
ENFORCEMENT AND
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Congressman Mullin:

Thank you for your letter of May 12, 2017, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. We share your interest in maintaining jobs in the carbon black manufacturing industry in the United States and agree that the law should be fairly and evenly applied to all carbon black plants in the United States.

Your letter references ongoing enforcement matters that involve, among other things, claims based upon the long-standing rules under the Clean Air Act regarding New Source Review. While we cannot address the status of enforcement actions or settlement discussions involving any particular company, we are working with the relevant parties, and we are aware of the importance of maintaining a fair and even playing field.

In 2007, as part of an effort to focus on environmental problems where federal enforcement efforts can make a difference, the EPA initiated investigation of the carbon black manufacturing sector. The EPA worked closely with our state partners in Louisiana, Alabama and Oklahoma to achieve two settlements, which we believe will achieve significant public health and environmental benefits for the communities surrounding these facilities. When fully implemented, the settlements will result in substantial reductions in emissions of particulates, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, pollutants that have been linked to negative impacts on the environment and human health, including susceptibility to respiratory infections and asthma attacks.

We remain committed to working with the other carbon black companies to ensure full compliance with the law, including installation of required pollution controls, by all carbon black manufacturing facilities in the United States. We recognize the significant environmental and financial commitment of Continental and Cabot. We have recently met with both companies to more fully understand their concerns.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or your staff may contact Carolyn Levine in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov or (202) 564-1859.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence Starfield".

Lawrence Starfield
Acting Assistant Administrator

1000000



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable John Barrasso
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Barrasso:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

It is important to emphasize that the proposed rule would reduce the scope of waters protected under the Clean Water Act compared to waters covered during the 1970s, 80s, and 90s to conform to decisions of the Supreme Court. The rule would limit Clean Water Act jurisdiction only to those types of waters that have a significant effect on downstream traditional navigable waters - not just any hydrologic connection. It would improve efficiency, clarity, and predictability for all landowners, including the nation's farmers, as well as permit applicants, while maintaining all current exemptions and protecting public health, water quality, and the environment. It uses the law and sound, peer-reviewed science as its cornerstones.

The agencies understand the importance of working effectively with the public as the rulemaking process moves forward. In order to afford the public greater opportunity to benefit from the EPA Science Advisory Board's reports on the proposed jurisdictional rule and on the EPA's draft scientific report, "Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence," and to respond to requests from the public for additional time to provide comments on the proposed rule, the agencies extended the public comment period on the proposed rule to November 14, 2014.

During the public comment period, the agencies met with stakeholders across the country to facilitate their input on the proposed rule. The agencies talked with a broad range of interested groups including farmers, businesses, states and local governments, water users, energy companies, coal and mineral mining groups, and conservation interests. The EPA conducted a second small business roundtable to facilitate input from the small business community, which featured more than 20 participants that included small government jurisdictions as well as construction and development, agricultural, and mining interests. The agencies also engaged in extensive outreach to our state partners - including Western states - since the proposed rule was published. We agree that states play a crucial role in implementing the Clean Water Act, and that is why we were in close communication with stakeholders such as the Western Governors' Association, Western States Water Council, Association of Clean Water Administrators, and Environmental Council of the States. We appreciated the dialogue with Western

states during the public comment period, which enabled us to share information about the proposed rule and to ensure that the critical interests of states are reflected in our rulemaking process.

Since releasing the proposal in March, the EPA and the Corps conducted unprecedented outreach to a wide range of stakeholders, holding nearly 400 meetings all across the country to offer information, listen to concerns, and answer questions. The agencies completed a review by the Science Advisory Board on the scientific basis of the proposed rule and will ensure the final rule effectively reflects its technical recommendations. These actions represent the agencies' commitment to provide a transparent and effective opportunity for all interested Americans to participate in the rulemaking process.

Finally, your letter also raises questions regarding the agencies' interpretive rule regarding the applicability of Clean Water Act Section 404(f)(1)(A). On December 16, 2014, President Obama signed H.R. 83, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, which instructs the EPA and the Department of the Army to withdraw the agencies' interpretive rule. The EPA and the Army will follow the statutory directive and withdraw the interpretive rule, a rule intended to encourage conservation and provide farmers with a simpler way to take advantage of existing exemptions from Clean Water Act dredge and fill permits. Withdrawal of the interpretive rule does not impact the agencies' work to finalize their rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act.

America thrives on clean water. Clean water is vital for the success of the nation's businesses, agriculture, energy development, and the health of our communities. We are eager to define the scope of the Clean Water Act so that it achieves the goals of protecting clean water and public health, and promoting jobs and the economy.

Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at borum.denis@epa.gov or (202) 564-4836.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth J. Kopocis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Steve Pearce
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pearce:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

It is important to emphasize that the proposed rule would reduce the scope of waters protected under the Clean Water Act compared to waters covered during the 1970s, 80s, and 90s to conform to decisions of the Supreme Court. The rule would limit Clean Water Act jurisdiction only to those types of waters that have a significant effect on downstream traditional navigable waters - not just any hydrologic connection. It would improve efficiency, clarity, and predictability for all landowners, including the nation's farmers, as well as permit applicants, while maintaining all current exemptions and protecting public health, water quality, and the environment. It uses the law and sound, peer-reviewed science as its cornerstones.

The agencies understand the importance of working effectively with the public as the rulemaking process moves forward. In order to afford the public greater opportunity to benefit from the EPA Science Advisory Board's reports on the proposed jurisdictional rule and on the EPA's draft scientific report, "Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence," and to respond to requests from the public for additional time to provide comments on the proposed rule, the agencies extended the public comment period on the proposed rule to November 14, 2014.

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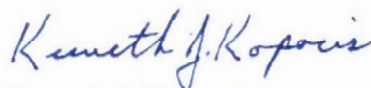
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Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at borum.denis@epa.gov or (202) 564-4836.

Sincerely,

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

The Honorable Cynthia M. Lummis
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICE OF WATER

Dear Congresswoman Lummis:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

It is important to emphasize that the proposed rule would reduce the scope of waters protected under the Clean Water Act compared to waters covered during the 1970s, 80s, and 90s to conform to decisions of the Supreme Court. The rule would limit Clean Water Act jurisdiction only to those types of waters that have a significant effect on downstream traditional navigable waters - not just any hydrologic connection. It would improve efficiency, clarity, and predictability for all landowners, including the nation's farmers, as well as permit applicants, while maintaining all current exemptions and protecting public health, water quality, and the environment. It uses the law and sound, peer-reviewed science as its cornerstones.

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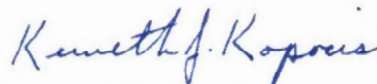
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Sincerely,

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable David Vitter
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Vitter:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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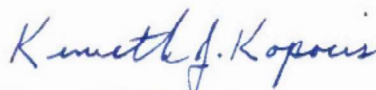
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth J. Kopocis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kenneth" and last name "Kopocis" clearly legible.

Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable James M. Inhofe
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Inhofe:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

It is important to emphasize that the proposed rule would reduce the scope of waters protected under the Clean Water Act compared to waters covered during the 1970s, 80s, and 90s to conform to decisions of the Supreme Court. The rule would limit Clean Water Act jurisdiction only to those types of waters that have a significant effect on downstream traditional navigable waters - not just any hydrologic connection. It would improve efficiency, clarity, and predictability for all landowners, including the nation's farmers, as well as permit applicants, while maintaining all current exemptions and protecting public health, water quality, and the environment. It uses the law and sound, peer-reviewed science as its cornerstones.

The agencies understand the importance of working effectively with the public as the rulemaking process moves forward. In order to afford the public greater opportunity to benefit from the EPA Science Advisory Board's reports on the proposed jurisdictional rule and on the EPA's draft scientific report, "Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence," and to respond to requests from the public for additional time to provide comments on the proposed rule, the agencies extended the public comment period on the proposed rule to November 14, 2014.

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states during the public comment period, which enabled us to share information about the proposed rule and to ensure that the critical interests of states are reflected in our rulemaking process.

Since releasing the proposal in March, the EPA and the Corps conducted unprecedented outreach to a wide range of stakeholders, holding nearly 400 meetings all across the country to offer information, listen to concerns, and answer questions. The agencies completed a review by the Science Advisory Board on the scientific basis of the proposed rule and will ensure the final rule effectively reflects its technical recommendations. These actions represent the agencies' commitment to provide a transparent and effective opportunity for all interested Americans to participate in the rulemaking process.

Finally, your letter also raises questions regarding the agencies' interpretive rule regarding the applicability of Clean Water Act Section 404(f)(1)(A). On December 16, 2014, President Obama signed H.R. 83, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, which instructs the EPA and the Department of the Army to withdraw the agencies' interpretive rule. The EPA and the Army will follow the statutory directive and withdraw the interpretive rule, a rule intended to encourage conservation and provide farmers with a simpler way to take advantage of existing exemptions from Clean Water Act dredge and fill permits. Withdrawal of the interpretive rule does not impact the agencies' work to finalize their rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act.

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Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at borum.denis@epa.gov or (202) 564-4836.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth J. Kopocis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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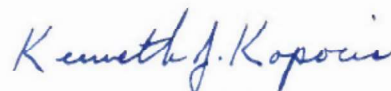
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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Dean Heller
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Heller:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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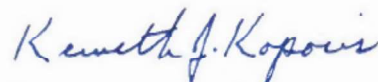
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Mike Lee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lee:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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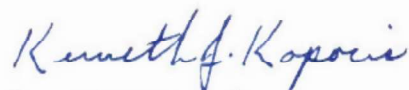
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Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Pat Roberts
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Roberts:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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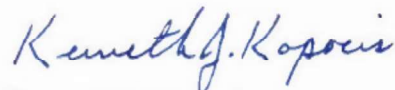
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

OFFICE OF WATER

Dear Senator Hatch:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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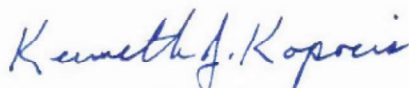
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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable John Thune
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Thune:

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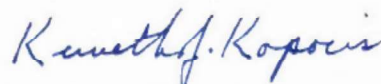
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Michael D. Crapo
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Crapo:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

It is important to emphasize that the proposed rule would reduce the scope of waters protected under the Clean Water Act compared to waters covered during the 1970s, 80s, and 90s to conform to decisions of the Supreme Court. The rule would limit Clean Water Act jurisdiction only to those types of waters that have a significant effect on downstream traditional navigable waters - not just any hydrologic connection. It would improve efficiency, clarity, and predictability for all landowners, including the nation's farmers, as well as permit applicants, while maintaining all current exemptions and protecting public health, water quality, and the environment. It uses the law and sound, peer-reviewed science as its cornerstones.

The agencies understand the importance of working effectively with the public as the rulemaking process moves forward. In order to afford the public greater opportunity to benefit from the EPA Science Advisory Board's reports on the proposed jurisdictional rule and on the EPA's draft scientific report, "Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence," and to respond to requests from the public for additional time to provide comments on the proposed rule, the agencies extended the public comment period on the proposed rule to November 14, 2014.

During the public comment period, the agencies met with stakeholders across the country to facilitate their input on the proposed rule. The agencies talked with a broad range of interested groups including farmers, businesses, states and local governments, water users, energy companies, coal and mineral mining groups, and conservation interests. The EPA conducted a second small business roundtable to facilitate input from the small business community, which featured more than 20 participants that included small government jurisdictions as well as construction and development, agricultural, and mining interests. The agencies also engaged in extensive outreach to our state partners - including Western states - since the proposed rule was published. We agree that states play a crucial role in implementing the Clean Water Act, and that is why we were in close communication with stakeholders such as the Western Governors' Association, Western States Water Council, Association of Clean Water Administrators, and Environmental Council of the States. We appreciated the dialogue with Western

states during the public comment period, which enabled us to share information about the proposed rule and to ensure that the critical interests of states are reflected in our rulemaking process.

Since releasing the proposal in March, the EPA and the Corps conducted unprecedented outreach to a wide range of stakeholders, holding nearly 400 meetings all across the country to offer information, listen to concerns, and answer questions. The agencies completed a review by the Science Advisory Board on the scientific basis of the proposed rule and will ensure the final rule effectively reflects its technical recommendations. These actions represent the agencies' commitment to provide a transparent and effective opportunity for all interested Americans to participate in the rulemaking process.

Finally, your letter also raises questions regarding the agencies' interpretive rule regarding the applicability of Clean Water Act Section 404(f)(1)(A). On December 16, 2014, President Obama signed H.R. 83, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, which instructs the EPA and the Department of the Army to withdraw the agencies' interpretive rule. The EPA and the Army will follow the statutory directive and withdraw the interpretive rule, a rule intended to encourage conservation and provide farmers with a simpler way to take advantage of existing exemptions from Clean Water Act dredge and fill permits. Withdrawal of the interpretive rule does not impact the agencies' work to finalize their rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act.

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Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at borum.denis@epa.gov or (202) 564-4836.

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Roy Blunt
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Blunt:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Jerry Moran
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Moran:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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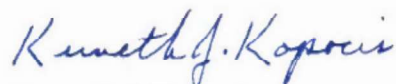
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Deb Fischer
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Fischer:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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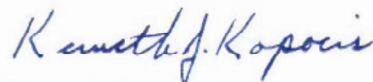
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable John Cornyn
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

The Honorable John Hoeven
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

OFFICE OF WATER

Dear Senator Hoeven:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable James E. Risch
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Risch:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Mike Enzi
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Enzi:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

It is important to emphasize that the proposed rule would reduce the scope of waters protected under the Clean Water Act compared to waters covered during the 1970s, 80s, and 90s to conform to decisions of the Supreme Court. The rule would limit Clean Water Act jurisdiction only to those types of waters that have a significant effect on downstream traditional navigable waters - not just any hydrologic connection. It would improve efficiency, clarity, and predictability for all landowners, including the nation's farmers, as well as permit applicants, while maintaining all current exemptions and protecting public health, water quality, and the environment. It uses the law and sound, peer-reviewed science as its cornerstones.

The agencies understand the importance of working effectively with the public as the rulemaking process moves forward. In order to afford the public greater opportunity to benefit from the EPA Science Advisory Board's reports on the proposed jurisdictional rule and on the EPA's draft scientific report, "Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence," and to respond to requests from the public for additional time to provide comments on the proposed rule, the agencies extended the public comment period on the proposed rule to November 14, 2014.

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Since releasing the proposal in March, the EPA and the Corps conducted unprecedented outreach to a wide range of stakeholders, holding nearly 400 meetings all across the country to offer information, listen to concerns, and answer questions. The agencies completed a review by the Science Advisory Board on the scientific basis of the proposed rule and will ensure the final rule effectively reflects its technical recommendations. These actions represent the agencies' commitment to provide a transparent and effective opportunity for all interested Americans to participate in the rulemaking process.

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Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at borum.denis@epa.gov or (202) 564-4836.

Sincerely,

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Cory Gardner
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Gardner:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Robert Bishop
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bishop:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at borum.denis@epa.gov or (202) 564-4836.

Sincerely,

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICE OF WATER

Dear Congressman Mullin:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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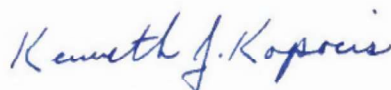
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Jeff Denham
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Denham:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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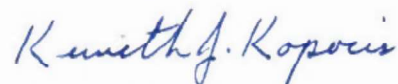
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Mike Simpson
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Simpson:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Don Young
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Young:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Walter B. Jones
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Jones:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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The agencies understand the importance of working effectively with the public as the rulemaking process moves forward. In order to afford the public greater opportunity to benefit from the EPA Science Advisory Board's reports on the proposed jurisdictional rule and on the EPA's draft scientific report, "Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence," and to respond to requests from the public for additional time to provide comments on the proposed rule, the agencies extended the public comment period on the proposed rule to November 14, 2014.

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Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at borum.denis@epa.gov or (202) 564-4836.

Sincerely,

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

The Honorable Matt Salmon
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICE OF WATER

Dear Congressman Salmon:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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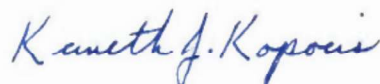
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Scott Tipton
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Tipton:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Sincerely,

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Mike Conaway
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Conaway:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Mark Amodei
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Amodei:

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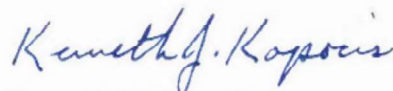
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Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

The Honorable Jeff Duncan
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICE OF WATER

Dear Congressman Duncan:

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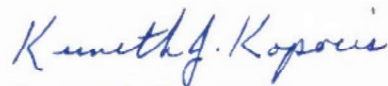
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Chris Stewart
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Stewart:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Paul Gosar
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gosar:

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The agencies understand the importance of working effectively with the public as the rulemaking process moves forward. In order to afford the public greater opportunity to benefit from the EPA Science Advisory Board's reports on the proposed jurisdictional rule and on the EPA's draft scientific report, "Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence," and to respond to requests from the public for additional time to provide comments on the proposed rule, the agencies extended the public comment period on the proposed rule to November 14, 2014.

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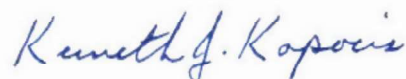
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Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at borum.denis@epa.gov or (202) 564-4836.

Sincerely,

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Tom McClintock
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McClintock:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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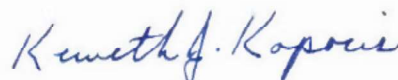
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Kevin Cramer
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cramer:

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

The Honorable Devin Nunes
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICE OF WATER

Dear Congressman Nunes:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable David Schweikert
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Schweikert:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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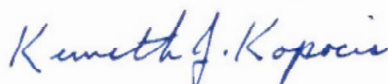
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Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Randy Neugebauer
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Neugebauer:

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Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Raul Labrador
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Labrador:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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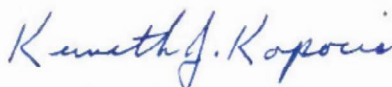
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

The Honorable Kristi L. Noem
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICE OF WATER

Dear Congresswoman Noem:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

It is important to emphasize that the proposed rule would reduce the scope of waters protected under the Clean Water Act compared to waters covered during the 1970s, 80s, and 90s to conform to decisions of the Supreme Court. The rule would limit Clean Water Act jurisdiction only to those types of waters that have a significant effect on downstream traditional navigable waters - not just any hydrologic connection. It would improve efficiency, clarity, and predictability for all landowners, including the nation's farmers, as well as permit applicants, while maintaining all current exemptions and protecting public health, water quality, and the environment. It uses the law and sound, peer-reviewed science as its cornerstones.

The agencies understand the importance of working effectively with the public as the rulemaking process moves forward. In order to afford the public greater opportunity to benefit from the EPA Science Advisory Board's reports on the proposed jurisdictional rule and on the EPA's draft scientific report, "Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence," and to respond to requests from the public for additional time to provide comments on the proposed rule, the agencies extended the public comment period on the proposed rule to November 14, 2014.

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states during the public comment period, which enabled us to share information about the proposed rule and to ensure that the critical interests of states are reflected in our rulemaking process.

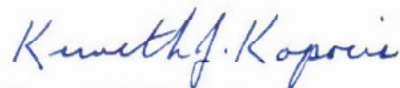
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Finally, your letter also raises questions regarding the agencies' interpretive rule regarding the applicability of Clean Water Act Section 404(f)(1)(A). On December 16, 2014, President Obama signed H.R. 83, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, which instructs the EPA and the Department of the Army to withdraw the agencies' interpretive rule. The EPA and the Army will follow the statutory directive and withdraw the interpretive rule, a rule intended to encourage conservation and provide farmers with a simpler way to take advantage of existing exemptions from Clean Water Act dredge and fill permits. Withdrawal of the interpretive rule does not impact the agencies' work to finalize their rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act.

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Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at borum.denis@epa.gov or (202) 564-4836.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth J. Kopocis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Doug Lamborn
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lamborn:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at borum.denis@epa.gov or (202) 564-4836.

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Trent Franks
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Franks:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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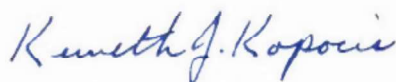
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Mike Coffman
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Coffman:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2015

The Honorable Jason Chaffetz
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICE OF WATER

Dear Congressman Chaffetz:

Thank you for your May 8, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

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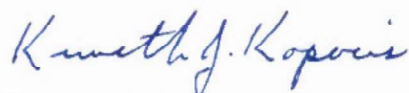
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Kenneth J. Kopocis
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Kelly Armstrong
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Armstrong:

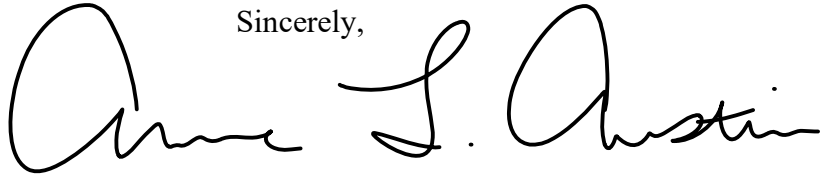
Thank you for your December 11, 2020, letter to Administrator Wheeler in which you express your support for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposal to retain the current National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone (O₃). In your letter, you express support for the current O₃ standards, noting that the current standards will allow for protection of public health and for air quality improvements to continue without causing economic impacts on communities across the country.

On December 23, 2020, Administrator Wheeler signed the final decision to retain the ozone standards. This action, established in 2015, retains the primary and secondary O₃ standard of 0.070 parts per million (ppm), as the annual fourth highest daily maximum 3-hour concentration, averaged over three consecutive years. In reviewing this standard, EPA considered the currently available scientific and technical information on air quality and the health and welfare effects of O₃, as assessed in the *Integrated Science Assessment for Ozone and Related Photochemical Oxidants* (2020), and the air quality, exposure and risk analyses that are thoroughly documented in the *Policy Assessment for the Review of the Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards* (2020). The scientific and quantitative information in these supporting documents, in addition to advice from the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) and public comments, informed the Administrator's final decision to retain the standard.

The Clean Air Act requires that primary NAAQS protect public health with an adequate margin of safety and the secondary NAAQS give requisite protection to the public welfare from any known or anticipated adverse effects. The Administrator's decision was based on assuring that the O₃ standard achieves this level of protection consistent with the Agency's extensive review of the current scientific and technical information, recommendations from our independent science advisors and public comments. In setting primary and secondary standards that are "requisite" to protect public health and welfare, respectively, EPA's task is to establish standards that are neither more nor less stringent than necessary. In so doing, EPA may not consider the costs of implementing the standards.

The EPA appreciates your support for retaining the 2015 NAAQs standards. If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Patricia Haman in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at haman.patricia@epa.gov or (202) 564-2806.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anne L. Austin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anne" being the largest and most prominent part, followed by "L." and then "Austin".

Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Troy Balderson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Balderson:

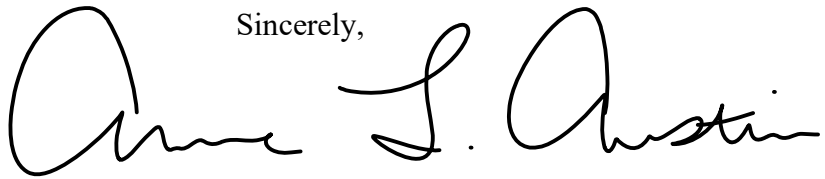
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Larry Bucshon, M.D.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bucshon:

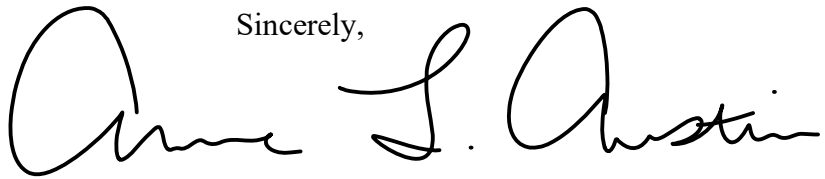
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Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Congressman Carter:

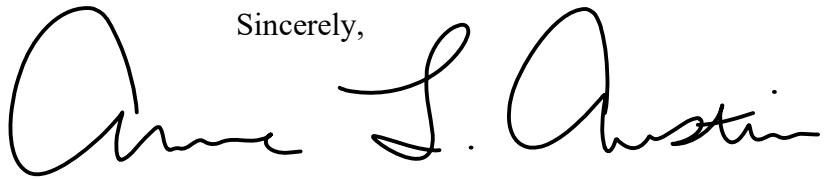
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anne L. Austin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anne" being the most prominent.

Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Steve Chabot
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Chabot:

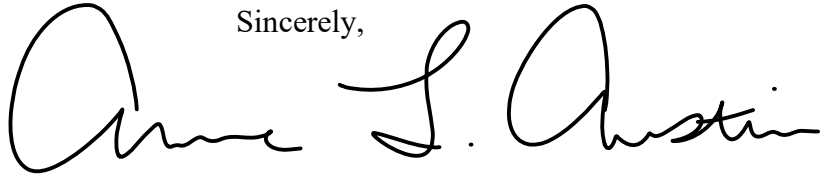
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Dan Crenshaw
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Congressman Crenshaw:

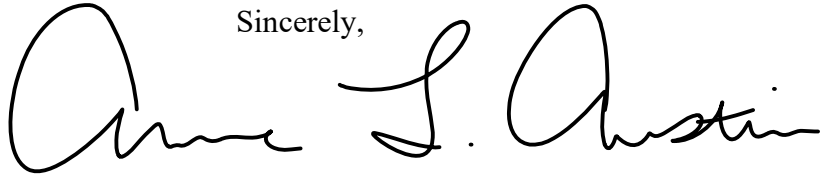
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Jeff Duncan
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Duncan:

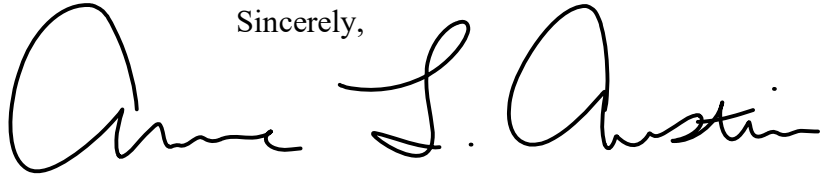
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Greg Gianforte
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gianforte:

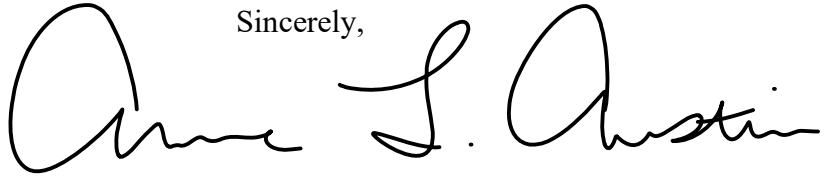
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable H. Morgan Griffith
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Griffith:

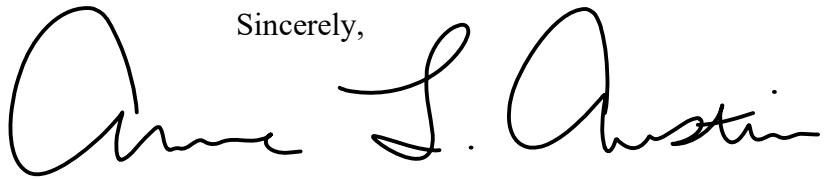
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Glenn S. Grothman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Grothman:

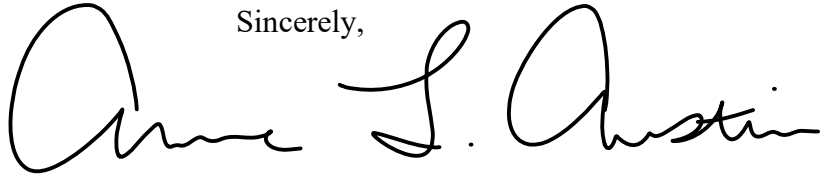
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Guthrie:

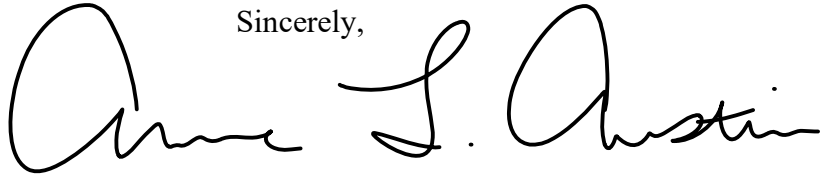
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Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Doug Lamborn
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lamborn:

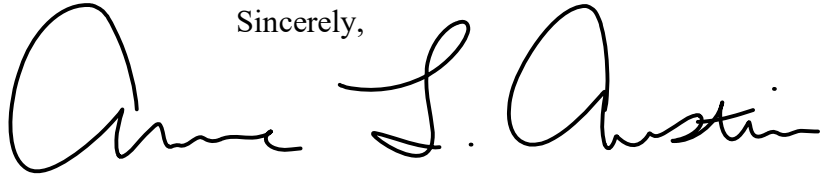
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Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Robert E. Latta
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Latta:

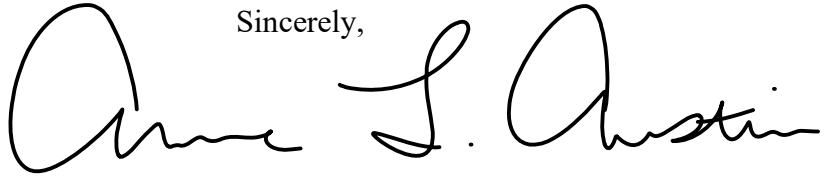
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Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Billy Long
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Long:

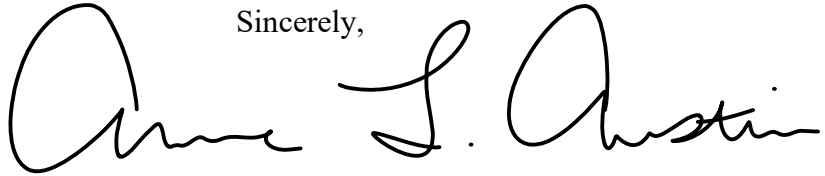
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Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable David B. McKinley
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McKinley:

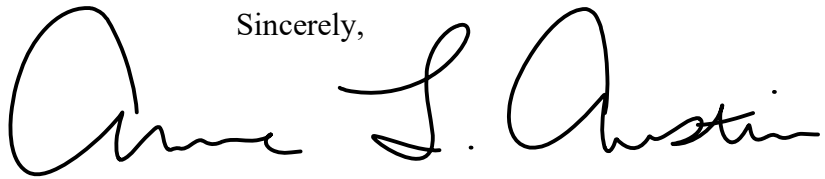
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The EPA appreciates your support for retaining the 2015 NAAQs standards. If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Patricia Haman in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at haman.patricia@epa.gov or (202) 564-2806.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anne L. Austin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anne" being the most prominent.

Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers:

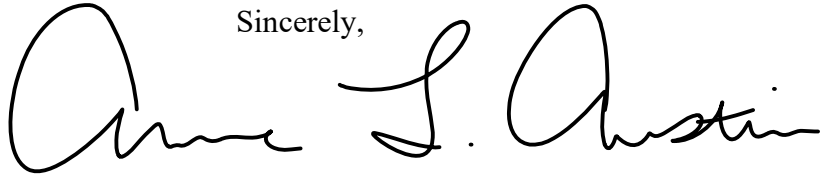
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Carol D. Miller
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Miller:

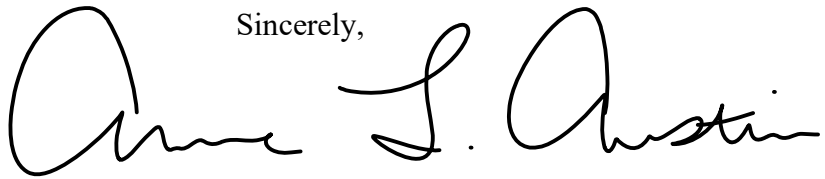
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Alex X. Mooney
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Mooney:

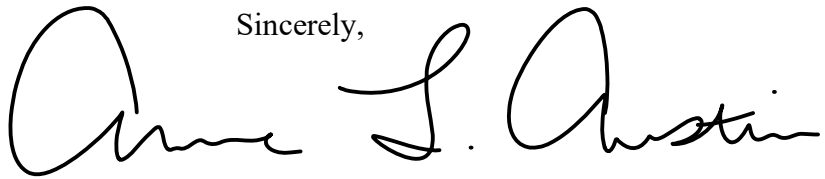
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Mullin:

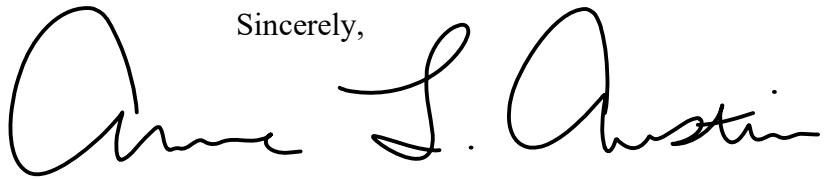
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Dan Newhouse
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Newhouse:

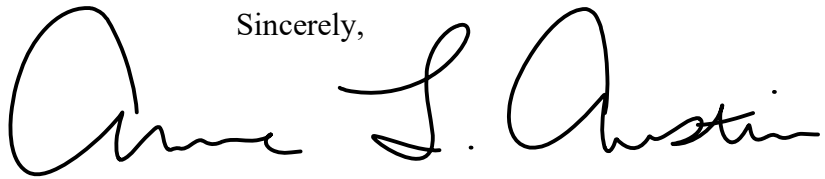
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Scott Perry
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Perry:

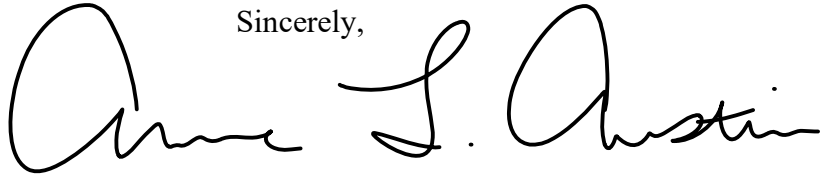
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Anne L. Austin
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Thomas P. Tiffany
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Tiffany:

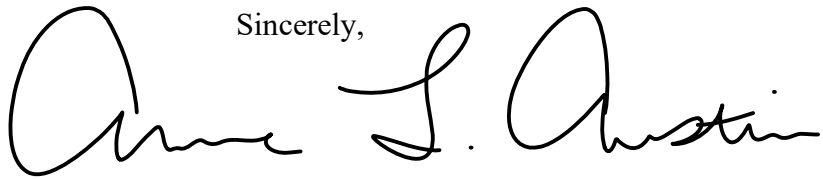
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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

January 12, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Randy K. Weber
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Weber:

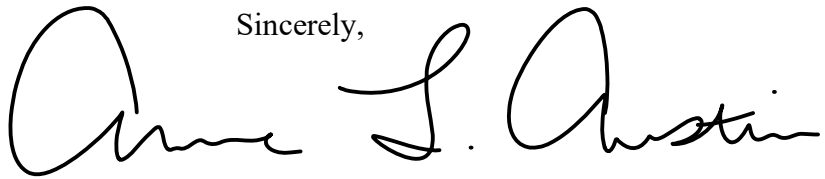
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Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 31, 2018

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Trey Hollingsworth
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hollingsworth:

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 2018, regarding Clean Air Act (CAA) deadlines. We have compiled a significant amount of historic information in response to your request.

Information on the reviews for National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are included in Attachment 1. More information on the process of reviewing the NAAQS is available at <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>. Also, Administrator Pruitt recently released a memorandum committing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to meet NAAQS deadlines: <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/back-basics-process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>.

Information regarding the status of New Source Performance Standards are included in Attachment 2. More information regarding specific standards can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/new-source-performance-standards>.

For the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants, many of these are tabulated in Attachment 3. This list reflects the Risk and Technology Reviews (RTR) underway or recently completed. Older RTRs are not included as these have not been tracked over time in the same manner. More information on specific reviews can be found at <https://www3.epa.gov/airtoxics/rtr/rtrpg.html>.

More information on upcoming EPA actions for these programs can be found in the Spring 2018 Unified Agenda: <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eAgendaMain>.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Matthew Davis in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at davis.matthew@epa.gov or at (202) 564-1267.

Sincerely,

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William L. Wehrum
Assistant Administrator

Enclosures (3)



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 31, 2018

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Gregg Harper
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Harper:

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Assistant Administrator

Enclosures (3)



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 31, 2018

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Lamar Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 2018, regarding Clean Air Act (CAA) deadlines. We have compiled a significant amount of historic information in response to your request.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 31, 2018

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Robert E. Latta
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Latta:

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 2018, regarding Clean Air Act (CAA) deadlines. We have compiled a significant amount of historic information in response to your request.

Information on the reviews for National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are included in Attachment 1. More information on the process of reviewing the NAAQS is available at <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>. Also, Administrator Pruitt recently released a memorandum committing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to meet NAAQS deadlines: <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/back-basics-process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>.

Information regarding the status of New Source Performance Standards are included in Attachment 2. More information regarding specific standards can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/new-source-performance-standards>.

For the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants, many of these are tabulated in Attachment 3. This list reflects the Risk and Technology Reviews (RTR) underway or recently completed. Older RTRs are not included as these have not been tracked over time in the same manner. More information on specific reviews can be found at <https://www3.epa.gov/airtoxics/rtr/rtrpg.html>.

More information on upcoming EPA actions for these programs can be found in the Spring 2018 Unified Agenda: <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eAgendaMain>.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Matthew Davis in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at davis.matthew@epa.gov or at (202) 564-1267.

Sincerely,

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William L. Wehrum
Assistant Administrator

Enclosures (3)



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 31, 2018

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Kevin Cramer
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cramer:

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 2018, regarding Clean Air Act (CAA) deadlines. We have compiled a significant amount of historic information in response to your request.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 31, 2018

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Jim Banks
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Banks:

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 2018, regarding Clean Air Act (CAA) deadlines. We have compiled a significant amount of historic information in response to your request.

Information on the reviews for National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are included in Attachment 1. More information on the process of reviewing the NAAQS is available at <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>. Also, Administrator Pruitt recently released a memorandum committing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to meet NAAQS deadlines: <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/back-basics-process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>.

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Assistant Administrator

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 31, 2018

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Ralph Abraham
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Abraham:

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 2018, regarding Clean Air Act (CAA) deadlines. We have compiled a significant amount of historic information in response to your request.

Information on the reviews for National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are included in Attachment 1. More information on the process of reviewing the NAAQS is available at <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>. Also, Administrator Pruitt recently released a memorandum committing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to meet NAAQS deadlines: <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/back-basics-process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>.

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Assistant Administrator

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 31, 2018

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Randy Weber
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Weber:

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 2018, regarding Clean Air Act (CAA) deadlines. We have compiled a significant amount of historic information in response to your request.

Information on the reviews for National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are included in Attachment 1. More information on the process of reviewing the NAAQS is available at <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>. Also, Administrator Pruitt recently released a memorandum committing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to meet NAAQS deadlines: <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/back-basics-process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>.

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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Matthew Davis in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at davis.matthew@epa.gov or at (202) 564-1267.

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Assistant Administrator

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 31, 2018

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Billy Long
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Long:

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 2018, regarding Clean Air Act (CAA) deadlines. We have compiled a significant amount of historic information in response to your request.

Information on the reviews for National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are included in Attachment 1. More information on the process of reviewing the NAAQS is available at <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>. Also, Administrator Pruitt recently released a memorandum committing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to meet NAAQS deadlines: <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/back-basics-process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>.

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